

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1 18. A method of transferring data that maintains data integrity, the method comprising:
 - 2 setting metadata associated with the data to indicate initiation of a transfer of the data;
 - 3 transferring the data from a data system to a file system;
 - 4 determining whether the transfer of the data was successful; and
 - 5 setting the metadata to indicate the successful transfer in response to the
 - 6 determination that the transfer of the data was successful.
- 1 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising transferring the data from the data system to
 - 2 the file system in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.
- 1 20. The method of claim 18 further comprising initiating an error handling process in
 - 2 response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.
- 1 21. The method of claim 18 further comprising:
 - 2 setting the metadata to indicate initiation of a deletion of the data;
 - 3 deleting the data;
 - 4 determining whether the deletion of the data was successful; and
 - 5 setting the metadata to indicate the successful deletion in response to the
 - 6 determination that the deletion of the data was successful.

1 22. The method of claim 21 further comprising deleting the data in response to the
2 determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

1 23. The method of claim 21 further comprising initiating an error handling process in
2 response to the determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

1 24. The method of claim 18 further comprising:
2 receiving the data into the data system from an external source; and
3 ensuring the integrity of the data in the data system.

1 25. The method of claim 18 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate a state
2 of the data.

1 26. The method of claim 18 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate copies
2 of the data.

1 27. The method of claim 26 further comprising processing the metadata to determine where
2 the copies of the data resides.

1 28. The method of claim 18 further comprising using filters when transferring the data.

1 29. A system for transferring data that maintains data integrity, the system comprising:
2 a file system;
3 a data system configured to transfer the data to the file system; and
4 a management system configured to set metadata associated with the data to indicate
5 initiation of a transfer of the data, determine whether the transfer of the data was successful,
6 and set the metadata to indicate a successful transfer in response to a positive determination
7 that the transfer of the data was successful.

1 30. The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to transfer the data to the
2 file system in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.

1 31. The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to delete the data and
2 wherein the management system is configured to set the metadata to indicate initiation of a
3 deletion of the data, determine whether the deletion of the data was successful, and set the
4 metadata to indicate the successful deletion in response to a positive determination that the
5 deletion of the data was successful.

1 32. The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to delete the data in
2 response to the determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

1 33. The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to receive the data from an
2 external source and ensure the integrity of the data.

1 34. The system of claim 29 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate a state
2 of the data.

1 35. The system of claim 29 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate copies
2 of the data.

1 36. The system of claim 35 wherein the management system is configured to process the
2 metadata to determine where the copies of the data resides.